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What's in season for May? Asparagus, broccoli, greens, mushrooms, rhubarb, and so much more! And of course, available year round you can find meats, cheese, eggs, milk, and more at a local farm stand, farmers' market, or farm store. Visit <u>CTGrown.org</u> to find a location near you to shop fresh and local.



Governor Lamont, Agriculture Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt and DEEP Commissioner Katie Dykes visited the greenhouses at J. DeFrancesco & Son in Northford.

Leading up to Mother's Day is Busiest Week of the Year for Connecticut Greenhouse

Governor Ned Lamont joined Agriculture Commissioner Bryan P. Hurlburt and Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Commissioner Katie Dykes on Thursday, May 5 to visit DeFrancesco Farm in Northford to tour the greenhouses and learn more about their environmentally friendly practices implemented, as well as Stewards of the Land Brewery, a CT Grown brewery situated on the family's farmland.

DeFrancesco Farm, established in 1907 and soon to be fifth generation family farm, is an example of how many farms in Connecticut are already integrating sustainable, innovative technologies. They grow on more than 120 acres and have 10 acres of state-of-the-art open roof greenhouses in which they utilize Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and biological insect controls to significantly reduce the use of synthetic pesticides. An innovative watering system has reduced their water consumption by 50 percent, and they heat the greenhouses using wood chips and a biomass furnace. The brewery was the first to be permitted as a CT Grown brewery and has a goal of recycling 100% of spent materials from the brewing process.

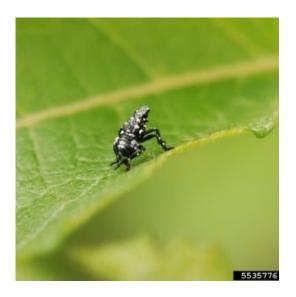
Activity in the greenhouses was at the peak of the season during the visit as the week leading up to Mother's Day is their busiest of the year. Geraniums are

throughout the Northeast and New York to various retailers and sold at their farm stand next door.

If you haven't shopped for Mom yet, it's not too late. Support local businesses and farms with flowers for the table or to plant in the yard. For more inspiration from meal ideas to gifts from head to toe, visit <u>CTGrown.org</u> to find a farmers' market, farm stand, or farm store near you.

During the recent legislative session, the former Governor's Council on Agricultural Development, was revised and established as the Governor's Council for Agricultural Development and Innovation. They will make recommendations to the Department of Agriculture on ways to increase agriculture in the state by developing innovative market opportunities, including, but not limited to, urban agriculture, integration and adoption of new technologies, controlled environment agriculture and diversification of products and opportunities.

A full report on legislative session pertaining to agriculture will be in an upcoming issue.





SPOTTED LANTERNFLY: NOW HATCHING

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station has issued a Quarantine Order with defined restricted areas for the exotic pest spotted lanternfly, *Lycorma delicatula* (SLF for short). This insect has been detected in Connecticut with established populations detected in Fairfield and New Haven Counties and single individuals intercepted in numerous towns. The spotted lanternfly is a new plant pest to the United States and represents a threat to Connecticut's environment, residential areas, and agricultural interests, particularly forests, orchards, vineyards, and nurseries. The purpose of this

state and help protect the economic interests of the state's agricultural industries by suppressing, controlling or eradicating infestations of spotted lanternfly in regulated areas, and provide by inspection or compliance agreement methods to permit the movement of regulated articles not infested with spotted lanternfly.

The quarantine order was renewed January 1, 2022, and will remain in effect until December 31, 2022, after which the quarantine may be renewed, rescinded by the Director, or replaced by the promulgation of regulations. <u>View the quarantine order</u>.

HOW TO IDENTIFY SLF

The spotted lanternfly eggs masses are laid on practically any surface including trees, stones, trash cans, side of a house, etc. during the fall. Egg masses are yellowish-brown in color, and most are covered with a gray, waxy coating prior to hatching (USDA, 2019). They may appear wet or sticky when fresh. **You will see eggs from September to May.**

Spotted lanternfly eggs hatch in the spring and early summer. Early instar nymphs are black in color with white spots; fourth instars nymphs are red with black and white spots. **You will see nymphs from April to October.**

Adult spotted lanternflies are about one inch long and one half inch wide. Tan forewings that have black spots, while their signature colorful hindwings have lower red patches and upper black patches, separated with a white section in between. The red hindwings are mostly hidden unless the wings are spread. Adult SLF crawl, jump, or fly short distances. **You will see adults from July to November.**

WHERE IS SLF FOUND?

While tree-of-heaven, *Ailanthus altissima*, is a favored host tree, spotted lanternfly may be found on other trees including maple, walnut, and willow. It feeds on agricultural crops like apples, grapes, hops, as well as other fruit trees. It is native to China, India, and Vietnam. The adults tend to congregate on the tree-of-heaven and other host trees in the fall.

To identify *Ailanthus altissima*: <u>click this link to view the tree-of-heaven</u> <u>identification fact sheet</u>

Please check your vehicles for stowaways! Inspect your vehicles, trailers, and other items for SLF adults and egg masses when travelling through areas with known or suspected SLF populations. These insects are known to hitch a ride on vehicles and even clothing. Jump to: where SLF has been seen.

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May 5

West Hartford Hosts Farmers Market Every Sunday From Summer to Fall, Patch, May 4

CT's Kid Gov. Announces Winner of Protecting Our Pets, New Britain Herald, May 3



USDA NASS GEARING UP FOR 2022 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

Conducted once every five years, the ag census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income, and expenditures. It is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Even small plots of land – whether rural or urban – count if \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year. The Census of Agriculture tells the story of American agriculture over time.

Key Dates:

- June 30, 2022 Sign up for those who do not already receive NASS surveys, and censuses end
- November 2022 ag census mails out and data collection begins
- February 6, 2023 response deadline

Sign up Here to be Counted

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AN URBAN FARMER?

UConn Extension of Fairfield County and Green Village Initiative are hosting an **Urban Farmer Training Course**.

Taught by Jacqueline Kowalksi, UConn Urban Agriculture Extension Educator.



May-October 2022 @ 122 Arctic St, Bridgeport, CT

Course Schedule

- Tuesdays, 6-8pm:
 Class Instruction (beginning 5/3)
- May 14 & May 15:
 Garden cleanup and planting weekend (Rain dates: 5/21, 5/22)
- Fridays, 4–6pm:
 Rotating participation in garden maintenance and harvest
- Saturdays, 9am-2pm:
 Rotating participation in farmers market vending (beginning 6/18)

About the Course

- · Meets once a week in person.
- Includes classroom topics and hands-on learning in the outdoor garden classroom.
- Opportunities to harvest, prep and sell vegetables produced in the class at a Bridgeport Farmers Market on Saturdays.

Cost: \$200/person

To register contact GVI at: communitygardens@gogvi.org or (203)612–4107. Scholarships available.





United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture





DEEP CLIMATE RESILIENCE GRANT PROGRAM

new <u>DEEP Climate Resilience Grant Program</u>. The federal government is making a historic investment in climate resilience with the rollout of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, with approximately \$47 billion in funding available nationwide to help communities prepare for climate-related hazards. This grant program would make funding available for planning grants for Connecticut communities, to help them develop projects that can compete for federal resilience investments.

The straw proposal outlines how DEEP is considering structuring the program and we would like your feedback and ideas, particularly in response to the questions posed in the Public Notice. These questions include requesting feedback on match requirements, maximum funding levels, review criteria, project duration, required meetings and deliverables, and how DEEP should define and evaluate vulnerable populations. DEEP is hosting a virtual meeting deliver presentation and receive comments а on the proposal and Public Notice questions on Monday May 9, 2022 at 1:00 pm Eastern via Zoom [REGISTER]. Written comments may be submitted directly to DEEP at DEEP.ClimateChange@ct.gov on or before May 16, 2022, by 4:00 p.m. Please include "DEEP Climate Resilience Grant Program" in the email subject line. Any questions may be directed to DEEP.ClimateChange@ct.gov.

Learn More Here



TOTAL FARMER HEALTH COACH OPPORTUNITY

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture is working with AgriSafe utilizing funds from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) as part of their Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN) project.

The 12-month grant award includes providing a train-the-trainer program to supply mental well-being awareness and coping strategies to ag educators, new farmers, and youth via the *Cultivating a Healthy Mind* curriculum offered by AgriSafe.

As part of that program, AgriSafe is seeking health care professionals to join their team as a certified Health Coach to educate Connecticut farmers on Total Farmer Health. The initial training is 100% online allowing interested individuals the ability to complete the Total Farmer Health Coach Certification wherever they feel most comfortable and when it fits best in their schedule.

2022 CONNECTICUT COMPOST TOUR SERIES

Tours #3 and #4: Home Composting/Beginner

(This is a hands-on field trip; please dress in clothing you don't mind getting dirty.)

The Keney Park Sustainability Project (KPSP) began in 2016 to provide hands-on training, on-site demonstrations, education outreach, and community collaboration that help families become more self-sustainable and environmentally conscious while preserving the historic Keney Park. Join KPSP staff for a tour of the site, and participate in a hands-on composting project. Tour the many types of composting systems KPSP supports from worm bins to tumblers all while learning about KPSP's other efforts from planting native plants to producing maple syrup.

May 7: REGISTER

June 25: REGISTER



FREE CONSULTATIONS FOR CT COMMERCIAL FARMERS

These are free one-on-one consultations for Connecticut Farmers, with specialists in certain fields of knowledge. These consultations are intended for those who have been farming for 10 years or less, but folks can apply if they have been farming for a longer period of time.

Sign up for a consultation with an expert on the topics of: Vegetable Production Livestock Conservation and Land use Urban Farming

For more information and to sign up follow the link!

The USDA has opened the <u>Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP)</u> funds projects that develop, coordinate, and expand local and regional food business enterprises that engage as intermediaries in indirect producer to consumer marketing to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products. Grants can be used for the planning stages of establishing or expanding a local and regional food business enterprise or to improve or expand a food business that supports locally and regionally produced agricultural products and food system infrastructure by performing feasibility studies, market research, training and technical assistance for the business enterprise and/or for producers working with the business enterprise. They also have a new Farm to Institution category! **Applications are due by May 16, 2022.**

To learn more about the LFPP program follow the link here.



GET READY FOR FARMERS' MARKET SEASON

CT Grown tents are in stock and available for pick up at Connecticut Regional Market, 101 Reserve Road, Hartford, CT. Orders must be placed online in advance at www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com. Following order confirmation arrangements will be made to coordinate a pick up day and time.

EPA SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR THE FARM, RANCH, AND RURAL COMMUNITIES FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This week, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced a <u>solicitation</u> for nominations to serve on its Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Federal Advisory Committee (FRRCC). Established in 2008, the FRRCC provides independent policy advice, information, and recommendations to EPA's

To be considered for an appointment to the FRRCC, nominations should be submitted to FRRCC@epa.gov by **May 16, 2022**, with the subject line "FRRCC Membership 2022." Nominations should include a résumé or curriculum vitae and a statement of interest. Letters of support and recommendation will be accepted but are not mandatory.

In addition, Administrator Regan <u>has issued a formal response</u> today to the most recent set of <u>FRRCC recommendations</u> regarding food loss and waste, water policy, and pesticide policy, which were published in December 2021. This communication includes clear examples of how EPA is taking action to respond to priorities identified by the committee.

Learn more about the FRRCC nomination.

Find more information about the FRRCC.

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON AGRITOURISM

The International Workshop on Agritourism is coming to Burlington, Vermont, from **August 30 to September 1, 2022**. Join agriculture and tourism industry professionals from the United States and beyond for an exciting program full of educational sessions, poster presentations, hands-on workshops, farm tours and networking events. Farmers, agricultural service providers, tourism experts and those interested in learning more about agritourism are all encouraged to attend and share your own knowledge, experiences and expertise!



International Workshop on Agritourism

Scholarships are available for farmers, students and others who demonstrate financial need and can illustrate how they would benefit from attending the conference.

Sign Up Here



NORTHEAST DAIRY BUSINESS INNOVATION CENTER INVESTS IN PROJECTS

opportunities totaling approximately \$3 million will be available for farmers, processors, and industry partners in 2022:

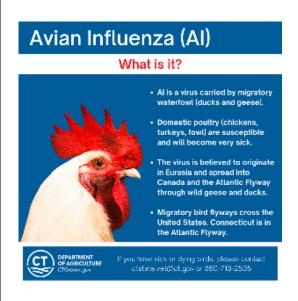
- June <u>Dairy Processor Innovation Grant</u>: Funding for dairy processors to make key developments in operations, products, marketing, and other strategies to position their businesses for long-term success.
- *October* <u>Dairy Farm Innovation Grant</u>: Funding for dairy farms to take a holistic approach to implementing community- and climate-forward dairy production and business strategies.

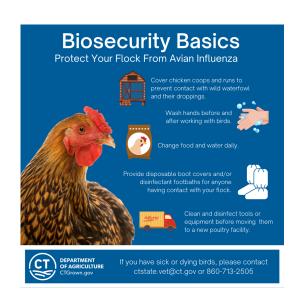
For more information follow this link.

USDA FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARMER'S MARKET PROMOTION PROGRAM

The <u>Farmer's Market Promotion Program (FMPP)</u> funds projects that develop, coordinate, and expand direct producer-to-consumer markets to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products by developing, coordinating, expanding, and providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agritourism activities, online sales or other direct producer-to-consumer market opportunities.

To learn more follow this link.





TO START OR GROW YOUR FARM? THE NATIONAL YOUNG FARMERS COALITION IS HERE TO HELP!



LEARN ABOUT THE USDA'S LOAN PROGRAMS THROUGH THE FARM SERVICE AGENCY (FSA). OUR COALITION WON A MICROLOAN PROGRAM IN THE 2014 FARM BILL TO MAKE THESE LOANS MORE ACCESSIBLE FOR YOU!

We know that it may not be easy to work with government programs due to historical andongoing discrimination against BIPOC farmers. Young Farmers has a farmer on staff who cananswer questions for BIPOC farmers about the loans and walk you through the application.



CALL OUR FARMER TECHNICAL ASSISTANT SHAKERA RAYCOZA TO LEARN MORE AT

SHAKERA@YOUNGFARMERS.ORG OR 518 643 3564 EXT. 1

USDA FSA Loans feature low interest rates (rates 2-3% as of February 2022), and do not use credit scores to determine eligibility.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF LOANS:

MICROLOANS

- + Up to \$50,000 in Operating Loan funds and \$50,000 in Ownership Loan funds, for a total of \$100,000
- + Repayment terms are 1-7 years
- + Same uses as Operating and Ownership loans
- + A streamlined application process with less paperwork

OPERATING LOANS

- + Up to \$400,000
- + Up to 7 years to repay
- * Use funds for infrastructure, livestock, feed, seeds, equipment, labor, fertilizers, rent, family living expenses, etc.

OWNERSHIP LOANS

- + Up to \$600,000
- + Repayment terms are up to 25
- + Use funds to purchase or enlarge a farm, make a down payment, promote soil and water conservation and protection, or pay closing costs
- Funds can also be used to purchase, improve, or build structures related to the farming business

Farm operating expenses, including, but not limited to, feed, seed, fertilizer, pesticides, farm supplies, repairs and improvements which are to be expensed, cash rent and family living expenses. Other programs include farm storage loans, living expenses under the loans above, down payment loan, guaranteed loan program, and youth loans.

PARA EMPEZAR O HACER CRECER TU GRANJA? NATIONAL YOUNG FARMERS COALITION (LA COALICIÓN NACIONAL DE AGRICULTORES JÓVENES) ESTÁ AQUÍ PARA AYUDARTE.



CONOCE LOS PROGRAMAS DE PRÉSTAMOS DEL USDA A TRAVÉS DE LA AGENCIA DE SERVICIOS AGRÍCOLAS (FSA). ¡NYFC CONSIGUIÓ UN PROGRAMA DE MICROCRÉDITOS EN LA LEY AGRÍCOLA DE 2014 PARA QUE ESTOS PRÉSTAMOS SEAN MÁS ACCESIBLES PARA T!!

Sabemos que puede resultar difícil trabajar con los programas del gobierno debido a la discriminación histórica y actual contra los agricultores BIPOC. Young Farmers tiene un agricultor en el equipo que puede responder a las preguntas de los agricultores BIPOC sobre los préstamos y ayudarles con la solicitud.



LLAMA A NUESTRA ASISTENTE TÉCNICA DE AGRICULTORES SHAKERA RAYGOZA PARA HABLAR MÁS A FONDO EN

SHAKERA@YOUNGFARMERS.ORG O AL 518 643 3564 EXT. 1

Los Préstamos FSA del USDA presentan tipos de interés bajos (tipos del 2-3% a partir de febrero de 2022), y no utilizan puntuaciones de crédito para determinar la elegibilidad.

MÁS INFORMACIÓN SOBRE LOS DIFERENTES TIPOS DE PRÉSTAMOS:

MICROCRÉDITOS

- Hasta 50.000 dólares en fondos de Préstamos de Explotación y 50.000 dólares en fondos de Préstamos de Propiedad, por un total de 100.000 dólares
- + Los plazos de reembolso son de 1 a 7 años.
- + Los mismos usos que los de Explotación y Propiedad
- Un proceso de solicitud agilizado con menos papeleo

PRÉSTAMOS DE OPERACIÓN

- + Hasta 400.000 dólares
- + Hasta 7 años de reembolso
- Uso de los fondos para infraestructuras, ganado, alimentos, semillas, equipos, mano de obra, fertilizantes, alquiler, gastos de manutención de la

PRÉSTAMOS EN PROPIEDAD

- + Hasta 600.000 dólares
- + Los plazos de reembolso son de hasta 25 años
- Los fondos se utilizan para comprar o ampliar una granja, hacer un pago inicial, promover la conservación y protección del suelo y el agua, o pagar los gastos de cierre
- Los fondos también pueden utilizarse para comprar, mejorar o construir estructuras relacionadas con el negocio agrícola

Los gastos de funcionamiento de la granja, incluyendo, pero no limitándose a, alimentos, semillas, fertilizantes, pesticidas, suministros de la granja, reparaciones y mejoras que deben ser contabilizadas, alquileres en efectivo y gastos de manutención de la familia. Otros programas incluyen préstamos para el almacenamiento de productos agrícolas, gastos de manutención en el marco de los préstamos anteriores, préstamos para el pago inicial, programa de préstamos garantizados y préstamos para jóvenes.

CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The 2022 scholarship application from Connecticut Agricultural Education Foundation is now live. **The application deadline is June 1, 2022**. This annual scholarship is for Connecticut students who are pursuing a career in agricultural education and/or have goals to further agriculture across the state.

Learn more here.

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD RESEARCH INITIATIVE GRANT

The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Education and Workforce Development (EWD) focuses on developing the next generation of research,

applications for the AFRI's Education and Workforce Development program areas to support:

- 1. professional development opportunities for K-14 educational professionals;
- 2. non-formal education that cultivates food and agricultural interest in youth;
- 3. workforce training at community, junior, and technical colleges;
- 4. training of undergraduate students in research and extension;
- 5. fellowships for predoctoral candidates and postdoctoral scholars; and
- 6. special workforce development topics

Grant applications are due by October 27, 2022.

Learn More Here!

Ag Market Pricing

<u>Middlesex Livestock Auction - CT</u> <u>New Holland Dairy Auction - New</u>

Prices provided on May 2, 2022 <u>Holland, PA</u>

CT Farmers' Market Prices New Holland, PA Hay Report

Prices provided on October 22, 2021

<u>USDA Mexico Canada Weekly</u>

Northeast Regional Eggs Update

New England Shell Eggs Wholesale Fruits & Vegetables -

<u>Boston</u>

Pennsylvania Weekly Cattle Auction

Summary

Wholesale Ornamental Flowers -

Boston

Pennsylvania Livestock Auction -

Eighty Four, PA

Advertisements

For Sale

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

- 3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. <u>Sonpal's Power Fence</u> 860-491-2290.
- 50-R. The SIG Insurance Agencies offer a wide range of carriers, can save you up to 23% on your farm insurance and provide better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call us for all your insurance needs with locations in CT, RI, NY and NH. Contact our AG department at 866-346-3744, option 4.
- 54-R. Transplanters, vacuum seeders, fertilizer applicators, garlic and potato planters and harvesters. High quality Italian-made precision equipment for the vegetable, tobacco, hemp, fruit, and floral markets. Call or email us today for details. Griffin Farm Equipment, LLC. 860-508-2426, Griffinfarm@aol.com; www.griffinfarmtools.com
- 55-R. 250 Bales clean golden yellow rye straw, cut 6/1, large bales. 203-506-6318.
- 22-1. Honeybees: 5-frame Deep nucs only, available first week May. Jones Apiaries, LLC, 860-677-9391.
- 22-3. SnowBlower -48" PTO. Like new only used twice \$3,095 new. Asking \$2,500 best offer. 860-604-3452.
- 22-5. Lynn Blackmer, your local Nationwide Farm Insurance agent. AFIS Certified. Nationwide Farm Master Certified. Serving CT, RI & MA. Any type/size farm. CT Farm Bureau members may quality for discount. Cell: 860-377-8947 lblackmer@caluoriinsureance.com Appointments available any time.
- 22-6. Trailer-1965 Miller, tip up 22ft. Air brakes solid steel, brakes works fine but old. Need 2 tires and light update. Retiring \$1,500. 860-875-8056.
- 22-9. New England Hereford Breeders interested in consigning Quality Registered Herefords into our Annual Sept. Sale should contact Wayne Budney, Four Winds Farm, 860-573-2829.
- 22-10. Growing mix-3.8 cu. ft. Greenhouse soil Dzen Farms 860-648-1355.
- 22-11. New Holland 259 hydraulic hay rake, \$2,500; International 435 baler, housed, \$3,500; Both good condition, ready to make good hay. Tim, 203-627-2398, nbffarm@gmail.com.
- 22-12. Logging services, forest management plans. Servicing all of CT. Fully licensed and insured. NRCS TSP. 860-398-1776, Josh Miller.
- 22-13. First cutting hay for sale. \$5.00 per bale. 860-990-8060 text or call.

4500' plus 3.5' wide Fruit-Zone Roll Premium Grade Bird Netting made of black colored polypropylene with a ¾ inch mesh (approximately 2.3#MSF), also called "side netting". Can be cross-cut or parted into narrower widths for fruit zone netting/side netting. Was a 5000' roll and we used about 220'. Asking \$150 please. Located in Colchester, CT. Contact Rosemary or Tim: 860-531-9727

RJ Planter Model RJ600. 2 Row rotary planter, row distance 27" – 46". Excellent condition. \$4,100. Call 860-729-2741 or 860-716-1093.

Wanted

42-R. EZTRAIL kicker bale wagons, any condition. Cash paid. Call or text George, 860-918-5442.

Job Opportunities

The USDA Farm Service Agency is currently accepting applications from individuals interested in providing contracted crop adjusting services throughout Connecticut for the 2022 crop year. Loss adjuster applications can be submitted in person or by mail to your local county FSA office, or electronically to nathan.wilson@usda.gov. Applications and a complete position description may be found at any FSA county office in Connecticut or online here.

<u>FoodCorps AmeriCorps service member</u> position for 2022-23 is still open! Are you passionate about helping kids in your community experience the joy and power of food? We hope you'll apply! Does this sound like someone you know? The final deadline is **May 27, 2022**, but send in your application as soon as possible. Interviews are already underway and positions are filled on a rolling basis. <u>Apply Here!</u>

USDA Farm Service Agency Program Technician position available in the Windsor, CT office. The last day to submit an application is **May 15, 2022**. <u>Apply Here!</u>

Interested in Advertising? Click here for details on rates and submission.

<u>Upcoming Events</u> (click on image below for info)













SALES & AUCTION

Middlesex Livestock Auction announces the following sales and auction: Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 11 a.m.: Spring Feeder Cattle Sale









Website

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